

CAPITOL HILL UPDATE

REP. JIM GERLACH (PA-06)

September 2, 2005

www.gerlach.house.gov

Clean Diesel Technology on Display in Wayne



Rep. Jim Gerlach gets a hands-on demonstration of the technology

Wayne -- Congressman Jim Gerlach visited Johnson Matthey's Environmental Catalysts and Technologies (ECT) group in Wayne recently. Rep. Gerlach acknowledged the company's multi-million dollar investment in facilities and equipment that enable diesel-powered vehicles to adopt the emissions control initiatives outlined in H.R. 6, the Energy Policy Act, which was signed into law in early August. These initiatives also enable diesel-powered vehicles to meet the 2007 emissions standards promulgated by the EPA in February 2001.

Johnson Matthey is increasing production capacity at its Wayne plant (located at 434 Devon Park Drive), which manufactures advanced catalysts and filters that make possible the wide implementation of clean diesel technology for light- and heavy-duty

diesel engines. These filters eliminate more than 90% of the pollutants that are exhausted into the air as soot and harmful gasses. The company will expand the manufacturing plant and add jobs in a process slated to begin in January of 2006. *Continued on back*

Supporting Hurricane Katrina Victims

Our thoughts and prayers are with our fellow Americans all along the Gulf Coast who are suffering through the horrible aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. It is in times of great tragedy when the true spirit of our wonderful country unites as one. We will see to it that those individuals suffering the most right now are taken care of and provided the assistance needed to get back onto their feet. We will rebuild those great towns and cities. But this is no small job. We need the full resources of our government and the generous, compassionate spirit of the American people to get this done.

For those interested in donating more than their thoughts and prayers, visit The Salvation Army Web site at www.salvationarmy.org and the American Red Cross Web site at www.redcross.org, or call 1-800-HELP NOW (435-7669). Remember, every little bit helps.

Thank you and God Bless America,

Jim Gerlach

Washington -- Congressman Jim Gerlach recently announced that three 6th District fire companies have received grants totaling nearly \$200,000 to help repair or replace old equipment, provide training to their members or improve health and safety programs in their departments.

The Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP) awards one-year grants directly to fire departments to support the nation's firefighters and the services they deliver. For the FY 2005 program, Congress appropriated, and President Bush signed into law, \$650 million in direct assistance to firefighters to improve the effectiveness of firefighting operations,

firefighter health and safety programs, and to establish or expand fire prevention programs throughout the United States. The Department of Homeland Security's Office for Domestic Preparedness (ODP) administers the program, in cooperation with the U.S. Fire Administration.

Local fire companies receiving grants in this most recent round of awards included the West End Fire Company #3 in Phoenixville which received a grant for \$78,280; the East Brandywine Fire Company in Downingtown which received a grant for \$66,300;

Funding for First Responders



and the Mt. Penn Fire Co #1 in Reading which received a \$43,700 grant.

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\$4.3 Million Secured for Reading

Reading -- The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development recently announced the release of a \$4.3 million loan guarantee for a Berks County organization to use in converting a former factory into a vibrant new arts and education center in Reading.



“This is wonderful news for the city of Reading,” Rep. Jim Gerlach explained. “This is a significant investment in our community and the formation of a partnership with a great local organization that’s based on a mutual desire to see Reading and Berks County prosper and grow.”

Congressman Joe Pitts added: “This project is exactly the kind of creative planning which is going to build a bright future for Reading. This is very good news and it is going to have a strong impact on the cultural and economic future of the city. Congressman Gerlach and I worked closely together in urging HUD to do this, and I’m delighted that our efforts were successful.”

Our City, Reading, Inc. will use the Section 108 Loan Guarantee to acquire and redevelop the former Dalloz Eyeglass factory, a 2.5-acre property situated on the corner of Washington and Second Street at the foot of the Penn Street Bridge in downtown Reading. Built originally in 1871, the factory manufactured eyeglasses and safety equipment in some form or another through 2002.



The developer will use the loan to transform the 165,000-square-foot former factory into a multi-purpose facility called the Goggle Works Arts Center. When completed, the regional arts center will contain 39,000 square feet of studio space, more than 21,000 square feet of artist work space, as well as room for offices, retail, and storage and classroom space for the Reading Area Community College. HUD estimates the project will bring 143 new jobs into Reading.

Rep. Gerlach Visits Johnson Matthey in Wayne

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During his visit, Rep. Gerlach toured the Wayne facility and participated in a hands-on demonstration of clean diesel technology using two school buses supplied by The Krapf Bus Company that demonstrated the benefits of Johnson Matthey’s catalytic systems. A white handkerchief placed on the tailpipe of each bus provided visible evidence of the new technology’s ability to reduce diesel engine air pollution.

Rep. Gerlach also met with Krapf’s president Dale Krapf, and thanked him for the decision to voluntarily retrofit the company’s entire school bus fleet, one of the largest in the nation, with clean diesel technology under its “Clean School Bus” pilot program.

“Both Johnson Matthey and Krapf are active proponents of emissions control and the deployment of clean diesel technology,” Rep. Gerlach said. “Their efforts helped deliver the data needed to push for more strin-

gent emissions controls. Working in partnership locally, they encouraged Washington to include new emissions standards in the recently passed Energy Policy Act, and I thank them for the initiative they have shown. This kind of cooperation, where technology developers and early-adopters can provide government with the information we need to make the right decisions benefits not only the region, but the nation as it implements new energy policy initiatives.”

Rep. Gerlach supported the revised version of the Energy Bill that passed the House on July 28 by a 275 to 156 vote. President Bush signed the legislation into law on August 8.

“While the energy legislation I voted does not complete our journey toward energy independence, it is a significant first step and will result in us using energy sources more responsibly,” Rep. Gerlach explained.

Johnson Matthey is a speciality



chemical company that initially established facilities at the Wayne site in 1974. The \$8.6 billion company is 188 years old and employs almost 7,500 people in 34 countries. As part of Johnson Matthey’s Catalysts Division, the world’s largest supplier of catalysts for the automotive industry, the Environmental Catalysts and Technologies Group has been providing cost-effective catalytic solutions for the worldwide light- and heavy-duty diesel markets for over 30 years. The Wayne facility currently employs 500 people and is one of the largest manufacturing entities in the 6th Congressional District.